

**CITY OF RALEIGH**  
**STORMWATER MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION (SMAC)**  
Minutes

Raleigh Municipal Building · 222 W. Hargett Street · Conference Room 305 3:00 p.m. · Thursday, December 1, 2016
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**Commission Members Present:** Matthew Starr (*vice chair*), Ken Carper, Kevin Yates, David Webb, Marc Horstman (*chair*), Evan Kane, Francine Durso, Marion Deerhake, and Chris Bostic.

**Stormwater Staff Present:** Blair Hinkle, Suzette Mitchell, Kelly Daniel, Lory Willard, Kristin Freeman, Alex Shpik, Veronica High, Justin Harcum, James Pflaum, Lauren Witherspoon, Jen Schmitz, Scott Bryant, Sheila Thomas-Ambat, Carrie Mitchell, Chris Stanley, and Gilles Bellot.

**Members Absent:** Vanessa Fleischmann

**Guest:** Natalie Carmen, Christy Perrin, Sujit Ekka, and Mark Senior.

**Meeting called to order:** 3:03 p.m. by Marc Horstman (*chair*)

**Motions:** (Absentees and Minutes)

- Absence: Mr. Horstman made a motion to excuse Vanessa Fleischmann from today's meeting and Mr. Starr seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.
- November Meeting Minutes: Mr. Webb made a motion to approve November's meeting minutes and Mr. Horstman seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

The following items were discussed with action taken as shown.

1. **Stormwater Staff Report:**

- TC-2-16: *The ordinance text change went into effect on Monday, November 28. We are working through some process challenges relating to staff communicating some of the details with their customers. We will be ramping up our efforts with additional public communications (flyers) to close the communication gap.*
- *Next year, we will start providing the Commission with their reappointment dates. Francine Durso second term expires on February 5, 2017.*

2. **Stormwater Quality Cost Share Project – 813 Darby Street:**

**Lory Willard** informed the Commission she is presenting one project for review. Saint Ambrose Episcopal Church is installing a 516 square foot (sf.) rain garden that will capture runoff from 4,600 sf. of parking lot.

Total Project Cost	<b>\$5,500</b>
Stormwater/City Contribution (75%)	\$4,125
Petitioner Contribution (25%)	\$1,375

**Ms. Durso** asked what type of role does American Rivers and Water Resources Research Institute (WRRRI) play in this project.

**Lory Willard** replied that WRRRI is working as an administrator to coordinate the rain garden design and construction, and also as a liaison for the church congregation for community acceptance. American Rivers is providing the grant that covers the petitioner contribution.

**Motion:**

Mr. Horstman made a motion to approve the Stormwater Quality Cost Share project, and Mr. Yates seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

**3. Stormwater Utility Fee Credit Manual:**

Scott Bryant remarked that we had previous discussion with the Commission on the vision in enhancing and expanding the fee credit program. The main objective today is to review the current Stormwater Utility Fee and Fee Crediting Program and discuss potential program enhancements.

**SMAC Feedback**

- (1) Recommend branding the updated fee crediting program (promotes name recognition, continued awareness, and creates positive repetition).
  - *Focus group*
  - *Program review*
  - *Go to EPA ("Waterwise") and USGS, for an example*
  - *Note monetary benefits*
- (2) Develop an updated and forward looking sustainable "cap" on the total credits available
  - *Building Asset Management (AM) capacity*
  - *Master planning*
  - *Optimization analysis*
- (3) Enhance the crediting program to make it open and available to any/all stormwater utility rate-paying customers for heightened equity and to promote increased participation over time.
  - *Depending on device/credit require a higher level of certification*
  - *Design consideration and vulnerable areas get more incentives based on geographic/watershed*
- (4) Potential integrated components of enhanced fee credit (*preliminary draft framework only*)

**4. Fiscal Year 2018 Draft CIP Overview:**

Blair Hinkle provided the Commission with an update on the fiscal year 2018 (FY18) Capital Improvement Program (CIP) draft. Since it's in draft form, the numbers are based on program priorities and are likely subject to change.

**2018 CIP Summary Highlights**

- Lake Preservation [↓100,000] - *Proposing two new projects in FY18 (Upper Durant Lake Stream Restoration Wetland and Wycliff Road Spillway Rehabilitation Project).*
- Water Quality Improvement [↓\$125,000] - *Removed Mulberry Street Wetland; added Cowper Drive SCM Retrofit and maintained Wooten Meadows Park Wetland.*
- General Water Quality [↑\$750,000] - *Dropped funding back from \$250k to \$200k for Stormwater Quality Cost Share; increased Water Quality Retrofit from \$600k to \$1.1M and increased TMDL Streams from \$1M to \$1.4M.*
- Stream Restoration [↑\$225,000] - *Increased funding for Walnut Creek by \$350k (beginning in FY19) and pushed out Capital Boulevard Stream Restoration several years.*
- General Drainage [↑\$1,294,000] - *Successful continued funding for system repairs; ramping up Drainage Assistance funding beginning in FY20; ongoing funding for Flood projects (HMGP/COR Acquisitions); and budgeting for Watershed Master Planning Program.*

- Neighborhood Drainage [↓\$3,680,000] - *Specified projects from general funding and adjusted timing to add high-priority project (Ramblewood).*
- Street Drainage [↑\$1,045,000] - *Added culvert replacements at Dorothea Drive and Dana Drive; Newton Road culvert TPS likely to increase - may be accelerated (currently planned for FY21/22).*
- Challenges:
  - New/Increased Operational Costs - *(Customer Care & Billing: +\$750,000/year; Asset Management: +\$300,000/yr.; Centralized SCM/Dam Maintenance: +\$300,000/year and GI/LID Implementation: +~\$200,000 in FY18)*
  - Total: +~\$1,550,000 in FY18: *(6% of FY17 Projected Revenues)*

**Mr. Horstman** wanted to know if there are any changes in the proposed budget due to increase bid prices. **Blair Hinkle** replied there are a number of CIP projects that we have increased the numbers and that will be another area of refinement moving forward.

**Mr. Webb** asked about the revenue side of the budget and if a rate increase would be considered. **Blair Hinkle** said we are not proposing any since we just had one last year.

**Kevin Yates** questioned if there will be an inflation rate forecast against capital cost or associated engineering/construction type cost. **Blair Hinkle** answered that we are not looking at it in that way yet. As we get into refining the way we do capital planning that will be a piece of it.

**Mr. Kane** referring to the maintenance shift on the stormwater control measures and dams asked if there would be movement of funds from other departments to stormwater. **Blair Hinkle** replied yes, and that we are looking at what is the most appropriate mechanism of recovering that funding.

**Mr. Carper** requested a status on the legacy projects. **Blair Hinkle** commented that staff is trying to work quickly on them. He used as an example Simmons Branch/Swift Drive, which was initially budgeted in 2002. Yet, re-designed three times since then and we have a final design that did not take into account the attenuation of White Oak Lake. A number of the legacy projects are complex projects and staff is trying to work through them as quickly as possible.

#### 5. **Other Business:**

Mr. Horstman commented that it has been an honor to serve the Commission and the City of Raleigh this past year.

#### **Adjournment:**

Mr. Horstman made a motion to adjourn and Kevin Yates seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Suzette Mitchell